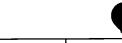




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. | |
|---|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--|
| 09/815,247 | 03/22/2001 | Paul H. Maier JR. | 1768.2002-000 | 6487 | |
| 21005 7 | 590 12/30/2002 | | | | |
| HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C. | | | EXAMINER | | |
| 530 VIRGINIA | - | POPE, DARYL C | | | |
| P.O. BOX 9133 | | | TOIL, DARTE C | | |
| CONCORD, MA 01742-9133 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | 2632 | | | |
| | | | DATE MAILED: 12/30/2002 | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



9

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/815,247

Applicant(s)

MAIER

Examiner

DARYL C. POPE

Art Unit **2632**

| The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
| Period 1 | for Reply | | | | | | |
| A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. • Extensions of time may be evailable under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the | | | | | | | |
| mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). | | | | | | | |
| Status | | | | | | | |
| 1) 💢 | Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 7, 20 | 002 | | • | | | |
| 2a) 🗌 | This action is FINAL . 2b) X This act | tion is non-final | | | | | |
| 3) 🗆 | 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213. | | | | | | |
| Disposi | ition of Claims | | | | | | |
| 4) 💢 | Claim(s) <u>1-27</u> | | | is/are pending in the application. | | | |
| 4 | 4a) Of the above, claim(s) | | | is/are withdrawn from consideration. | | | |
| 5) 🗆 | Claim(s) | | | is/are allowed. | | | |
| 6) 💢 | Claim(s) <u>1-27</u> | **** | | is/are rejected. | | | |
| 7) 🗆 | Claim(s) | | | is/are objected to. | | | |
| 8) 🗆 | Claims | are | subject | t to restriction and/or election requirement. | | | |
| Application Papers | | | | | | | |
| 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. | | | | | | | |
| 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner. | | | | | | | |
| Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). | | | | | | | |
| 11) | The proposed drawing correction filed on | is: | : a)□ a | approved b) \square disapproved by the Examiner. | | | |
| If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action. | | | | | | | |
| 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. | | | | | | | |
| Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120 | | | | | | | |
| 13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). | | | | | | | |
| a) All b) Some* c) None of: | | | | | | | |
| | 1. U Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. | | | | | | |
| | 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No | | | | | | |
| 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. | | | | | | | |
| 14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e). | | | | | | | |
| a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received. | | | | | | | |
| 15) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121. | | | | | | | |
| Attachment(s) | | | | | | | |
| | otice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) Interview Su | mmary (PT | O-413) Paper No(s) | | | |
| 2) No | otice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) Notice of Inf | ormal Pater | nt Application (PTO-152) | | | |
| 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6) Other: | | | | | | | |

Page 2

Application/Control Number: 09/815,247

Art Unit: 2632

DETAILED ACTION

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

ART REJECTION:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Issa et al for the reasons of record as discussed in the previous office action.

REMARKS:

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed have been fully considered but they are not persuasive for the reasons of record as discussed in the previous office action. Applicant's representative is invited to contact the examiner at their convenience so as to resolve issues as discussed in applicant's arguments.

Conclusion

4. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314(for formal communications intended for entry)

and as well:

Art Unit: 2632

(703) 872-9314(for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor(Receptionist).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daryl C. Pope whose telephone number is (703) 305-4838. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 7:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu, can be reached on (703) 308-6370. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Daryl C. Pope

PRIMARY EXAMINER

Page 3

Dec. 23, 2002